

Fremont Conservation Commission
07-10-06 Minutes

Fremont Conservation Commission
Minutes of July 10, 2006
Approved July 24, 2006

Present: Chairman Jack Karcz, Members Janice O'Brien, Tina Sturdivant, Alternate Pat deBeer, Recording Secretary Meredith Bolduc.

Mbr. O'Brien made the motion to allow Alt. DeBeer voting rights for this meeting.
Motion seconded by Mbr. Sturdivant with unanimous favorable vote.

PRIME WETLANDS STUDY

The Commission received a June 9, 2006 letter of support from the Board of Selectmen for the Prime Wetland Study.

Mark West, of West Environmental, Inc. met with the Commission at 7:30 pm. He had previously submitted a June 6, 2006 cost estimate proposal, which showed a total cost of **\$20,940.00** for Environmental Consulting with the following Scope of Services:

Phase 2a – Wetland Inventory mileage and expenses = \$4,400.00

- 1 Aerial photo purchase of 130 black and white photos for stereo coverage dated March 27 and 28, 2006 at scale of 1 inch = 500 feet = \$1,920.00.
- 2 Aerial photo interpretation of targeted wetlands 2 acres or greater – approximately 54 wetlands.
- 3 Wetland inventory report

Phase 2b Wetland Evaluation = \$10,860.00

- 1 Define evaluation priorities and develop data form
- 2 Research existing Natural Resource studies in Fremont
- 3 Perform wetland evaluation and field data collection with photolog of approximately 54 wetlands
- 4 Prepare Prime Wetland candidates
- 5 Prepare Wetland Evaluation Report

Phase 2c Prime Wetland Designation = \$5,680.00

- 1 Conduct field inspections to verify Prime Wetland boundaries and collect final evaluation data
- 2 Digitize Prime Wetland Boundaries *
- 3 Prepare Prime Wetland tax maps per NHDES standards *
- 4 Prepare PowerPoint presentation for public education
- 5 Assist in preparation of Zoning Amendment and present Prime Wetland Candidates at Planning Board hearing
- 6 Prepare Final Prime Wetland Designation Report

* Work to be subcontracted and performed by others – costs not included.

As a result of a conversation with Jody Castallo of New Hampshire Estuaries Program (NHEP), during which she related to Mr. West that the Fremont Conservation Commission's only available funds were the \$8,000.00 50/50 NHEP matching grant that has been awarded, Mr. West offered a modified proposal which did not include all the wetlands in the town. Jody Castallo was unaware that, in addition to the grant, the

Fremont Conservation Commission

07-10-06 Minutes

Commission has approved up to \$12,000 from the current use fund for the purpose of a town wide wetlands inventory and evaluation for potential Prime Wetland designation. The Members agreed that they want this wetland study to include all of the wetlands over 2 acres in size as previously discussed. It was noted that the funding is short \$940.00 and Mr. West offered to revise the contract to fit the available \$20,000.00.

In answer to Alt. deBeer's questions, Mr. West stated that the time that it takes for evaluation depends on the size of each of the wetlands. He noted that there can be no uplands in a prime wetland and it is described as having 50% very poorly drained soil. With respect to timing of the work, Mr. West stated that the timeline would be based on funding and that by September 1st the interpretation of the wetlands would be done, he would finalize candidates over the winter and be into the final phase in the spring. The Power Point Presentation could be completed and the project would be ready for public hearing by fall of 2007.

Chrm. Karcz stated that the plan was to proceed for as far as the funds would go, then apply again. The Commission understands that the Prime Wetland Designation could not be ready to present to the Town until 2008.

Mr. West stated that he would also need a letter authorizing him to go onto people's property.

Based on observations made by Mbr. Knee in the Oak Ridge area, Chrm. Karcz asked Mr. West to take a look at the areas around Spruce Swamp and identify any extended Prime Wetland that may have been inadvertently omitted from the original designation of prime wetland.

Alt. deBeer stated that since the NH Estuaries wants to manage the grant funding, which is only a portion of the total project cost, it may be necessary for us to further break down the proposed phases into tasks or subphases, the cost of which adds up to the matching grant amount of \$16,000. The remainder of the project will be managed by the Conservation Commission in conjunction with Mark West.

Mr. West left the meeting at 9:00 pm.

MINUTES

Mbr. Sturdivant made the motion to accept the minutes of the June 5 and 27, 2006 meetings as written. Motion seconded by Mbr. O'Brian with favorable vote.

GLEN OAKES

Mbr. O'Brien stated that the Glen Oakes signs purchased from the NH Forest Society will be ready by the end of July. Dedication will be August 26th with the rain date of the 27th and the signs will be installed before that date.

NATURAL RESOURCES OUTREACH COALITION (NROC)

Chrm. Karcz reported that on July 5, 2006 the NROC team met with the Future Land Use and Zoning Committee to discuss what projects would be most beneficial to the Town. Suggestions that were discussed at that meeting were the possible creation of text for the NRI maps, updating the Natural Resources Chapter

Fremont Conservation Commission

07-10-06 Minutes

of the Master Plan, assisting our RPC Circuit Rider David West with open space planning and working with the Open Space Committee. They are scheduled to meet with the Open Space Committee tomorrow evening.

BUDGET/TREASURERS REPORT

The Commission received and reviewed the Fremont Treasurers Report and balance sheet current to June 6, 2006 from Treasurer Kimberly Dunbar.

It was the consensus of the Commission that the \$2,550.00 for the Glen Oakes survey, which was taken from the residual fund in December, should have come from the Current Use Fund and Mrs. Bolduc was instructed to send a correspondence to Kimberly requesting that it be transferred back into the Residual account if possible.

Chrm. Karcz will meet with Kimberly relative to the report.

OAK RIDGE

Chrm. Karcz stated that he will attend the July 20, 2006 public meeting to be held by the Selectmen to accept the NHDRED Recreational Trails Program grant money. Chrm. Karcz reported that he and Mbr. Knee went to the property and Mbr. Knee felt that there should be steps installed, possibly of pressure treated lumber, in a steep spot that goes by a beaver dam and that it will take more time to do the trail than originally thought. Mbr. Sturdivant offered that there is eco-friendly pressure treated lumber. Mbr. O'Brien will contact Jason Teaser from the Society of the Protection of NH Forest relative to the "parking" sign.

Mrs. Bolduc will contact Bill Gegas of NHDRED of advising that the Recreational Trails Program Grant to see if the review process for the grant is finished and if work on the trail can be started.

LOON POND

There was a general conversation relative to the possible purchase of property in the Loon Pond area.

ERLAC

Mbr. Sturdivant reported that she has contacted Theresa Walker and requested 9 bridge and water crossing signs. Additional information will come forward after she attends the August ERLAC meeting.

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

1. Comment sheet and public notice from the Planning Board relative to the amended Site Plan Review application of Cooper's Corner, Map 3 Lot 037-1. The Commission reviewed the plan # (5)9804SITE drawn by Eric Mitchell Associates and dated May 28, 2006. One comment was that the proposed 10' x 10' salt shed be required to have a concrete pad with a containment wall. The plan will be reviewed again at the next meeting.
2. Notice from NHDOT that they are looking for 3 communities to participate in the Municipal GIS pilot project.
3. A June 22, 2006 notice from NHDOT relative to a culvert and headwall replacement on Beede Road.
4. A June 29, 2006 notice from NHDES of a July 25, 2006 seminar on private well testing.

Fremont Conservation Commission
07-10-06 Minutes

Mbr. O'Brien made the motion to adjourn at 9:55 pm.
Motion seconded by Alt. deBeer with unanimous favorable vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Meredith Bolduc